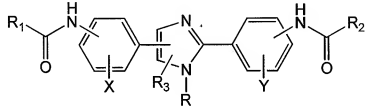
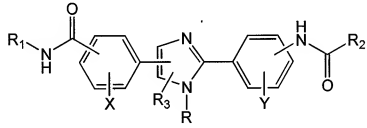
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

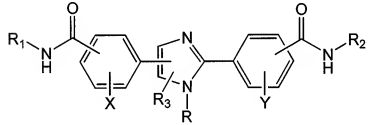
1. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition for treating ~~an allergic reaction~~ allergic asthma associated with increased IgE levels in a mammal, comprising a compound or salt thereof selected from any of the following formulas:



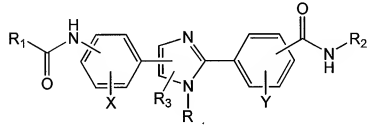
Genus 1;



Genus 2;



Genus 3; and



Genus 4;

wherein R is selected from the group consisting of H, C_1-C_5 alkyl, benzyl, p-fluorobenzyl, and dialkylaminoalkyl, wherein said C_1-C_5 alkyl is selected from the group consisting of a straight chain, branched or cyclic alkyl;

wherein R_3, X, and Y are independently selected from the group consisting of H, halogen, alkoxy, substituted alkoxy, alkyl, substituted alkyl, dialkylaminoalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, OH, OCH_3, COOH, CN, CF_3, OCF_3, NO_2, COOR", CHO, and COR";

wherein R_1 and R_2 are independently selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, substituted alkyl, C_3-C_9 cycloalkyl, substituted C_3-C_9 cycloalkyl, polycyclic aliphatic groups, phenyl, substituted phenyl, naphthyl, substituted naphthyl, heterocyclic, and substituted heterocyclic, wherein said heterocyclic and said substituted heterocyclic contain 1-3 heteroatoms, wherein said heteroatom is independently selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, and wherein R_1 and R_2 are not both methyl or phenyl;

wherein substituents of the substituted alkyl, the substituted C_3-C_9 cycloalkyl, the substituted phenyl, the substituted naphthyl and the substituted heterocyclic are selected from the group consisting of H, halogen, alkoxy, substituted alkoxy, alkyl, substituted alkyl, dialkylaminoalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, OH, OCH_3, COOH, COOR′, COR′, CN, CF_3, OCF_3, NO_2, NR′R′ and CONR′R′;

wherein R′ is selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, substituted alkyl, C_3-C_9 cycloalkyl, substituted C_3-C_9 cycloalkyl, polycyclic aliphatic groups, phenyl, naphthyl, substituted naphthyl, heteroaryl and substituted heteroaryl, wherein said heteroaryl and said substituted heteroaryl contain 1-3 heteroatoms, wherein said heteroatom is independently selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur;

wherein R" is selected from the group consisting of C_1-C_9 alkyl, wherein said C_1-C_9 alkyl is selected from the group consisting of straight chain alkyl, branched alkyl, and cyclic alkyl; and

at least a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent.

2. (Previously presented) The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 1, wherein said polycyclic aliphatic group is selected from the group consisting of adamantyl, bicycloheptyl, camphoryl, bicyclo[2,2,2]octanyl, and norbornyl.

3. (Previously presented) The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 1, wherein said heterocyclic and said substituted heterocyclic is selected from the group consisting of pyridines, thiazoles, isothiazoles, oxazoles, pyrimidines, pyrazines, furans, thiophenes, isoxazoles, pyrroles,

pyridazines, 1,2,3-triazines, 1,2,4-triazines, 1,3,5-triazines, pyrazoles, imidazoles, indoles, quinolines, iso-quinolines, benzothiophines, benzofurans, parathiazines, pyrans, chromenes, pyrrolidines, pyrazolidines, imidazolidines, morpholines, thiomorpholines, and the corresponding saturated heterocyclics.

4. (Previously presented) The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 1, further comprising at least one additional ingredient which is active in reducing at least one symptom associated with said allergic reaction.

Claims 5-25. (Cancelled)

26. (Previously presented) The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 1, wherein R_1 and R_2 are independently selected from the following: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and


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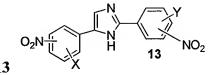
27. (Withdrawn-currently amended) A method of preparing a pharmaceutical composition of Claim 1, wherein the compound or salt thereof ~~of~~ is in Genus 1 as defined in Claim 1, comprising:

converting a Y-substituted-nitro-benzonitrile to a Y-substituted nitro-benzamidine;

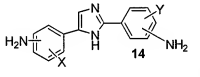
reacting the Y-substituted nitro-benzamidine with X-substituted nitro-phenacyl halide to form a species of the formula **13**



13

;

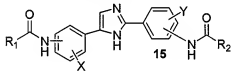
reducing the species of the formula **13** to form a species of the formula **14**



14

; ~~and~~

acylating the species of the formula **14** to form a species of the formula **15**



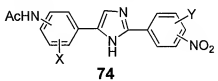
15

; and whereby the compound or salt thereof of Genus 1 is combined with a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent.

28. (Withdrawn-currently amended) A method of preparing a pharmaceutical composition of Claim 1, wherein the compound or salt thereof ~~of~~ is in Genus 1 as defined in Claim 1, comprising:

converting a Y-substituted nitro-benzonitrile to a Y-substituted nitro-benzamidine;

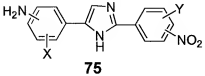
reacting the Y-substituted nitro-benzamidine with X-substituted acetamido-phenacyl halide to form species of the formula **74**



74

;

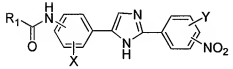
hydrolyzing the species of the formula **74** to form a species ~~of~~ of the formula **75**



75

;

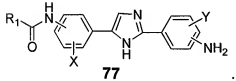
acylating the species of the formula **75** to from a species of the formula **76**



76

;

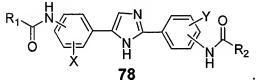
reducing the species of the formula **76** to form a species of the formula **77**



77

; ~~and~~

acylating the species of the formula **77** to from a species of the formula **78**



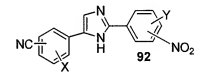
78

; and whereby the compound or salt thereof of Genus 1 is combined with a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent.

29. (Withdrawn-currently amended) A method of preparing a pharmaceutical composition of Claim 1, wherein the compound or salt thereof ~~of~~ is in Genus 2 as defined in Claim 1, comprising:

converting a Y-substituted-nitro-benzonitrile to a Y-substituted nitro-benzamidine;

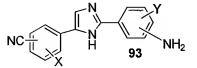
reacting the Y-substituted nitro-benzamidine with X-substituted cyano-phenacyl halide to form a species of the formula **92**



92

;

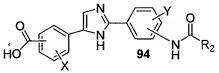
reducing the species of the formula **92** to form a species of the formula **93**



93

;

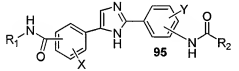
acylating the species of the formula **93** and subsequently performing a hydrolysis



94

to form a species of the formula **94** ; ~~and~~

aminating the species of the formula **94** to form a species of the formula **95**



95

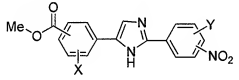
; and whereby the compound or salt thereof of Genus 2 is combined with a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent.

30. (Withdrawn-currently amended) A method of preparing a pharmaceutical composition of Claim 1, wherein the compound or salt thereof ~~of~~ is in Genus 2 as defined in Claim 1, comprising:

converting a Y-substituted nitro-benzonitrile to a Y-substituted nitro-benzamidine;

converting methyl X-substituted 4-acetyl benzoate to a methyl X-substituted 4-(alpha-bromoacetyl) benzoate;

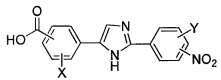
reacting the Y-substituted nitro-benzamidine with methyl X-substituted 4-(alpha-bromoacetyl) benzoate to form species of the formula **103**



103

;

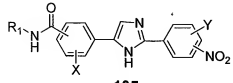
hydrolyzing the species of the formula **103** to form a species of the formula **104**



104

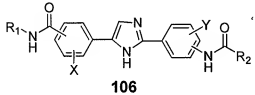
;

aminating the species of the following formula **104** to form a species of the



formula **105** **105** ; ~~and~~

reducing and amidating the formula **105** to form a species of the formula **106**

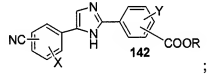


106 ; and whereby the compound or salt thereof of Genus 2 is combined with a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent.

31. (Withdrawn-currently amended) A method of preparing a pharmaceutical composition of Claim 1, wherein the compound or salt thereof ~~of~~ is in Genus 3 as defined in Claim 1, comprising:

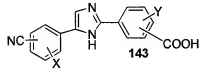
converting a Y-substituted-alkoxycarbonyl-benzonitrile to a Y-substituted alkoxycarbonyl-benzamidine;

reacting the Y-substituted alkoxycarbonyl-benzamidine with X-substituted cyano-phenacyl halide to form a species of the formula **142**



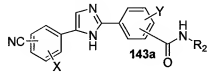
142 ;

hydrolyzing the species of the formula **142** to form a species of the formula **143**



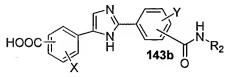
143 ;

amidating the species of the formula **143** to form a species of the formula **143a**



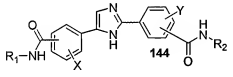
143a ;

hydrolyzing the species of the formula **143a** to form a species of the formula **143b**



; ~~and~~

amidating the species of the formula **143b** to form a species of the formula **144**

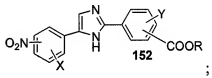


; and whereby the compound or salt thereof of Genus 3 is combined with a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent.

32. (Withdrawn-currently amended) A method of preparing a pharmaceutical composition of Claim 1, wherein the compound or salt thereof ~~of~~ is in Genus 4 as defined in Claim 1, comprising:

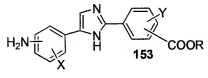
converting a Y-substituted-alkoxycarbonyl-benzonitrile to a Y-substituted alkoxycarbonyl-benzamidine;

reacting the Y-substituted alkoxycarbonyl-benzamidine with X-substituted nitro-phenacyl halide to form a species of the formula **152**



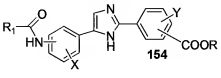
;

reducing the species of the formula **152** to form a species of the formula **153**



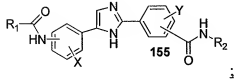
;

acylating the species of the formula **153** to form a species of the formula **154**



; ~~and~~

amidating the species of the formula **154** to form a species of the formula **155**



155

; and whereby the compound or salt thereof of Genus 4 is combined with a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent.

33. (Currently amended) A compound selected from the group consisting of:

N-{4-[5-(4-~~cycloheptylamino~~cycloheptylamido-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]-phenyl}-cycloheptylamide,

N-{4-[2-(4-(4-~~fluorobenzoylamino~~fluorobenzoylamido)-phenyl)-3H-imidazol-4-yl]-phenyl}-4-fluoro-benzamide,

N-{4-[5-(4-~~cyclohexylamino~~cyclohexylamido-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]-phenyl}-cyclohexylamide,

N-{4-[2-(4-(2,4-~~dichlorobenzoylamino~~dichlorobenzylamido)-phenyl)-3H-imidazol-4-yl]-phenyl}-2,4-dichloro-benzamide,

N-{4-[5-(4-(2-methylcyclohexyl)-~~amino~~amido-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]-phenyl}-(2-methylcyclohexyl)-amide,

N-(3-(5-(3-(1-Adamantanamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl)phenyl)-1-adamantanecarboxamide,

N-(4-(5-(3-(1-Adamantanamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl)phenyl)-1-adamantanecarboxamide,

N-{4-[5-(4-(2-methylcyclohexyl)-~~amino~~amido-phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl]-phenyl}-(4-methylcyclohexyl)-amide,

N-(4-(5-(4-adamantylamidophenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl)phenyl)picolinamide,

N-(4-(5-(4-adamantylamidophenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl)phenyl)-4-methylcyclohexanecarboxamide,

N-(4-(5-(4-adamantylamidophenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl)phenyl)-2-methylcyclohexanecarboxamide,

N-(4-(5-(4-adamantylamidophenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl)phenyl)cycloheptanecarboxamide,

N-(4-(2-(4-adamantylamidophenyl)-1H-imidazol-5-yl)phenyl)cyclohexanecarboxamide,

N-(4-(5-(4-(cyclohexanecarboxamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl)phenyl)picolinamide,

N-(4-(5-(4-(cyclohexanecarboxamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl)phenyl)-2-methylcyclohexylamide,

N-(4-(5-(4-(cyclohexanecarboxamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl)phenyl)cycloheptylamide,

4-chloro-N-(4-(5-(4-(cyclohexanecarboxamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl)phenyl)benzamide,

3,4-chloro-N-(4-(5-(4-(cyclohexanecarboxamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl)phenyl)benzamide,

N-(4-(5-(4-(4-methylcyclohexanecarboxamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl)phenyl)cycloheptanecarboxamide,

N-(4-(2-(4-adamantylamidophenyl)-1H-imidazol-5-yl)phenyl)-4-methylcyclohexanecarboxamide,

N-(4-(5-(4-(4-methylcyclohexanecarboxamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl)phenyl)picolinamide,

N-(4-(5-(4-(4-methylcyclohexanecarboxamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl)phenyl)benzamide,

N-(4-(5-(4-(4-methylcyclohexanecarboxamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl)phenyl)-4-fluorobenzamide,

N-(4-(5-(4-(4-methylcyclohexanecarboxamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl)phenyl)-4-chlorobenzamide,

N-(4-(5-(4-(4-methylcyclohexanecarboxamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl)phenyl)-3,4-dichlorobenzamide,

N-(4-(5-(4-(4-methylcyclohexanecarboxamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl)phenyl)-4-methoxybenzamide,

N-(4-(5-(4-(4-methylcyclohexanecarboxamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl)phenyl)-2,3,4,5,6-pentafluorobenzamide,

N-(4-(2-(4-Adamatylamidophenyl)-1H-imidazol-5-yl)phenyl)cycloheptanecarboxamide,

N-(4-(2-(4-(Cyclohexanecarboxamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-5-yl)phenyl)cycloheptanecarboxamide,

N-(4-(2-(4-(2-Methylcyclohexanecarboxamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-5-yl)phenyl)cycloheptanecarboxamide,

N-(4-(2-(4-(4-Methylcyclohexanecarboxamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-5-yl)phenyl)cycloheptanecarboxamide,

N-(4-(5-(4-(Cycloheptanecarboxamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl)phenyl)nicotinamide,

N-(4-(2-(4-(Benzamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-5-yl)phenyl)cycloheptanecarboxamide,

N-(4-(2-(4-(2,3,4,5,6-Pentafluorobenzamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-5-yl)phenyl)cycloheptanecarboxamide,

N-(4-(2-(4-(3,4-Dichlorobenzamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-5-yl)phenyl)cycloheptanecarboxamide,

N-(4-(2-(4-(4-Fluorobenzamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-5-yl)phenyl)cycloheptanecarboxamide,

N-(4-(2-(4-(4-Chlorobenzamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-5-yl)phenyl)cycloheptanecarboxamide,

N-(4-(2-(4-(4-Methoxybenzamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-5-yl)phenyl)cycloheptanecarboxamide,

N-(4-(2-(4-(4-Nitrobenzamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-5-yl)phenyl)cycloheptanecarboxamide,

N-(4-(2-(4-(1-Adamantanecarboxamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-5-yl)phenyl)nicotinamide,

N-(4-(2-(4-(Cyclohexanecarboxamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-5-yl)phenyl)nicotinamide,

N-(4-(2-(4-(2-Methylcyclohexanecarboxamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-5-yl)phenyl)nicotinamide,

N-(4-(2-(4-(4-Methylcyclohexanecarboxamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-5-yl)phenyl)nicotinamide,

N-(4-(2-(4-(Nicotinamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-5-yl)phenyl)nicotinamide,

N-(4-(2-(4-(3,4-Dichlorobenzamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-5-yl)phenyl)nicotinamide,

N-(4-(2-(4-(2,3,4,5,6-Pentafluorobenzamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-5-yl)phenyl)nicotinamide,

N-(4-(2-(4-(Cycloheptanecarboxamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-5-yl)phenyl)nicotinamide,

2-Methyl-N-(4-(2-(4-(cyclohexanecarboxamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-5-yl)phenyl)cyclohexanecarboxamide,

N-(4-(5-(4-(2-methylcyclohexanecarboxamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl)phenyl)nicotinamide,

2-Methyl-N-(4-(2-(4-(4-methylcyclohexanamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-5-yl)phenyl)cyclohexanecarboxamide,

N-(4-(5-(4-(2-Methylcyclohexanecarboxamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl)phenyl)cycloheptanecarboxamide,

N-(4-(5-(4-(2-Methylcyclohexanecarboxamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl)phenyl)picolinamide,

N-(4-(5-(4-(pyridin-2-ylcarbamoyl)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl)phenyl)cycloheptanecarboxamide,

N-(4-(5-(4-(pyridin-2-ylcarbamoyl)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl)phenyl)cyclohexanecarboxamide,

N-(4-(5-(4-(cycloheptylcarbamoyl)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl)phenyl)benzenamide,

N-(4-(5-(4-(cycloheptylcarbamoyl)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl)phenyl)picolinamide,

N-(4-(5-(4-(cycloheptylcarbamoyl)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl)phenyl)cycloheptanecarboxamide,

4-(2-(4-(4-methylcyclohexanecarboxamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-5-yl)-N-cycloheptylbenzamide,

4-(2-(4-(2-methylcyclohexanecarboxamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-5-yl)-N-cycloheptylbenzamide,

4-(2-(4-adamantylamidophenyl)-1H-imidazol-5-yl)-N-cycloheptylbenzamide,

Adamantane-1-carboxylic acid (4-{5-[4-(adamantan-2-ylcarbamoyl)-phenyl]-1H-imidazol-2-yl}-phenyl)-amide,

N-Adamantan-2-yl-4-[2-[4-(cyclohexanecarbonyl-~~amino~~amido)-phenyl]-3H-imidazol-4-yl}-benzamide,

Cycloheptane carboxylic acid (4-{5-[4-(adamantan-2-ylcarbamoyl)-phenyl]-1H-imidazol-2-yl}-phenyl)-amide,

Pyridine-2-carboxylic acid (4-{5-[4-(adamantan-2-ylcarbamoyl)-phenyl]-1H-imidazol-2yl}-phenyl)-amide,

N-(4-(5-(4-(Cyclohexylcarbamoyl)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl)phenyl)picolinamide,

N-(4-(2-(4-(Cyclohexanecarboxamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-5-yl)-N-cyclohexylbenzamide, and

N-(4-(5-(4-(Cyclohexylcarbamoyl)phenyl)-1H-imidazol-2-yl)phenyl)cycloheptanecarboxamide.